

in the final legislation. The Older Americans Act Amendments of 1995 assures that the maximum amount of funds available will go directly to our elderly with the greatest needs. Resource limitations make it all the more important for us to remain vigilant in ensuring that we reach those elderly persons with the greatest economic need and greatest social need.

Our intent in this bill is to encourage maximum flexibility so that State and local agencies can improve service delivery systems that are currently in place. In nutrition services, we eliminate the restrictive nature of the current nutrition programs that have separate funding for congregate, in-home delivered meals and USDA commodities by consolidating the nutrition funding streams into one flexible account for nutrition services. After years of requests by service providers, this legislation, for the first time, allows States to implement a cost-sharing program for in-home type services and nutrition programs in order to expand programs to seniors. Cost sharing would be based on self-declaration of income. The legislation also continues to encourage voluntary contributions and allows States to develop a voucher system for services, such as nutrition or supportive services that are not available through traditional providers.

In addition, the Senior Community Service Employment Program will be administered directly by the States and competed among local public and private non-profit organizations and area agencies on aging within the States. This new administration of the program will allow for more resources to go directly to low-income seniors for part-time employment and allow States to better meet the needs of their older individuals. In making changes to the Senior Community Service Employment Program we have allowed for a transition period to mitigate disruptions to individuals currently enrolled in the program.

States and localities have been given more flexibility to determine appropriate services and address local needs. In addition, States have more discretion in the development of their intrastate funding formula. Title VII Elder Rights Protection has been consolidated into Title III Supportive Services which can provide for a wide array of services from transportation, in-home type services to elder abuse activities. The requirement for the Statewide Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is maintained. The ability to transfer up to 50 percent of funding between Nutrition and Supportive Services is also included in the legislation.

In an effort to consolidate senior related programs into the act, we have moved three senior volunteer programs, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, the Foster Grandparent Program and the Senior Companion Program from the Corporation for National Service. We feel that this move will provide a secure home for these important programs well into the future.

There have been concerns in the past about the wide array of ever increasing mandates that appeared in the act with each new reauthorization. The Administration on Aging was overwhelmed with increasing demands while resources were shrinking. In this legislation we try to relieve the AOA of some of those demands so that it can focus on its' most critical and primary mission. For the first time, the Administration on Aging will be responsible for

administering all programs under this act. With the elimination of the former Title IV Training Research and Discretionary Programs, the Assistant Secretary has been given broad authority to carry out these types of programs. Requirements for special offices within the administration were eliminated while maintaining the need for individuals with expertise in these areas. While nothing in the act precludes the AOA from continuing these offices, it provides the administration with additional flexibility.

The Older Americans Act has always been viewed as a most worthwhile piece of legislation. I firmly believe that the 1995 Amendments will provide the flexibility to address the changing needs of our older individuals and continue to honor our commitment to them now, and well into the future. I urge my colleagues to support the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1995.

SENSE OF HOUSE RELATING TO DEPLOYMENT OF ARMED FORCES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SPEECH OF

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 1995

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, at this delicate period of negotiations between the warring parties in the former Yugoslavia, I believe that it is extremely counterproductive for the House to be considering this resolution. The Administration is showing great leadership by bringing the factions together to attempt to resolve these ancient hostilities which, in their most recent manifestations, have devastated the region and left more than 200 thousand dead. I believe that if this House approves the resolution before us, it will hinder the peace process by shaking the confidence of the combatants in the ability of the United States to follow through on any commitments to which it agrees.

No one in this Congress wants to insert American troops into an ongoing conflict, nor do I believe that this is the desire of our President. Most in the House also agree that Congress should be consulted prior to the commitment of any ground troops to a peacekeeping effort in Bosnia. Many of us on both sides of the aisle have asserted this prerogative to the President and to Administration officials during recent months. The President and the U.S. negotiators know Congress's wishes on this issue; there is no need for the House to approve a resolution today to restate what has been made quite apparent by various Members of Congress.

If it is unnecessary to explain to the President the position of the House on this issue, what purpose will this resolution serve? I believe that the only function of this resolution will be to undermine the credibility of the Administration as it enters into negotiations which could have dramatic effects on the outcome of the peace process.

I understand that Members have widely differing opinions on the issue of utilizing U.S. troops in peacekeeping missions, and I respect the sincere convictions upon which these opinions have been formed. However, the peace process in the Balkans will suffer if

this resolution passes. It vividly emphasizes the distinct possibility that the United States will not honor what it has agreed to at the negotiating table. I do not see how the conflicting parties can have faith in the peace process if the House causes them to question the commitment of the United States.

I have always believed that Congress must not deliberately undermine the ability of the President to conduct foreign relations. I have supported this policy for Presidents from both parties. If approved, this resolution will hinder the ability of this President to negotiate an end to the horrible warfare in southeastern Europe. I urge my colleagues to put aside their partisan sentiments and to support the process toward peace by opposing House Resolution 247.

TRIBUTE TO SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE LEONARD D. RONCO

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Superior Court Judge Leonard D. Ronco. Judge Ronco has been a public servant since 1956 and will retire from the State bench on his 70th birthday, November 3, 1995.

Judge Ronco is a distinguished leader in Essex County, NJ, whose prudent rulings clearly reverberated and effected the larger community. The president-elect of the New Jersey State's Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Cathy Waldor, credited him with being, "One of the finest, if not the finest judge in the State."

This week, the Superior Court of New Jersey is indisputably losing a leader respected by the people and the community as a whole. Further, he is a leader worthy of emulation, respected by his colleagues and admired by young aspiring lawyers and judges throughout the State.

Judge Ronco brought to the bench a unique perspective. As both a prosecutor and a defense attorney he was aware of all the nuances of the courtroom and the tactics employed by both sides. This awareness enabled him to holistically understand all arguments brought before him. Such a perspective and complete understanding could only further the pursuit of justice.

It is my hope that his leadership role in the community and the legal profession will not diminish with his retirement. The community can only gain because now he will have the opportunity to pursue a Golconda of leadership goals in Essex County.

His retirement should open up new roads that will challenge and beacon him. Roads that will once again enable him to effect the larger community albeit in a different capacity.

Mr. Speaker, I know you will join me in wishing Judge Leonard Ronco the best of luck on the journey before him.

MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN; THE TRAGEDY OF CHILDREN AT RISK

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, every day hundreds of abductions of innocent boys and girls are attempted. A study by the U.S. Justice Department reported that each year there are as many as 114,600 attempted abductions of children by non-family members. There are 4,600 reported abductions by non-family members. Even more horrifying is that 354,000 abductions are by family members. In addition, the Department of Justice also reported that 450,700 children ran away and 127,100 children are thrown away each year.

While these numbers are staggering and frightening they are also easy to hide behind, Mr. Speaker, because we do not often put a name or a face to this tragedy. Recently our colleague from Florida, Mr. DEUTSCH, has enabled all of us to see the human face of this issue. In many of our offices the notice about Jimmy Ryce, missing since he was abducted while walking home from school on September 11, have been hanging—a silent but powerful reminder of how vulnerable our children are.

Each Member of this House should be concerned about Jimmy Ryce because each day, in each of our districts, there are others like Jimmy who are walking home from school, playing in parks and recreation centers, at sporting and social events, at great risk of being kidnapped—taken from their homes and families.

An abduction of a child is just the beginning of unspeakable horrors that he or she might have to endure. It is often the preamble to a life of slavery and fear which may include physical and emotional abuse, forced prostitution, pornography, labor, and drug use.

Earlier this week, I hosted a briefing on the trafficking of children for prostitution and pornography in the United States. At this briefing we heard from activists who have dedicated themselves to intervention programs which attempt to locate children who are missing and are now caught in a cycle from which they cannot escape on their own. These people talked of the horrors that are inflicted on these children—they are raped and beaten and threatened with death, they become dependent on their pimps for every aspect of their existence. Treated as chattel, many of them are branded or tattooed to ensure that others know who "owns" them. Many of these children are exposed to sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, AIDS, and other illnesses. They are denied adequate medical treatment and many of them die of these illnesses.

The number of children who are forced into this modern-day form of slavery is increasing, it is also a tragic fact that the age of these children is decreasing. We are able to document children as young as 4 years old who are victims of this abuse. Tragically, many of the children who are being abused in this way have been reported missing or kidnapped.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, there are few individuals and even fewer organizations which actively work at documenting these missing and kidnapped children, locating them and assisting them in breaking the cycle of abuse and

providing for them safe places where they can grow and develop. Organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, H.I.P.S., the Paul and Lisa Program and Children of the Night offer some spark of hope for children who have been abducted. While they provide assistance to a few hundred children each year, the large numbers of children affected by this abuse is overwhelming.

More needs to be done. We must have greater concern for our children. They must not have to live in fear that they will be abducted and removed from all that they know and love, forced into a life of virtual slavery. We owe a word of gratitude to those who have dedicated their lives to assisting the missing and exploited children of our Nation. But we must also pledge to our children and especially to Jimmy Ryce and the thousands of others who are missing and kidnapped that we will do all we can to find them, protect them and return them to their childhoods and the promise that the future should hold for them.

SEVEN-YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2491) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996.

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the substitute to the budget reconciliation bill. My reasoning can be summed up in three simple words: Cut Spending First.

The people of my district sent me to Washington to change the way this place operates and to get this country's finances in order. President Clinton and most of the new Members of this body were sent here to do the same thing.

Today's votes are far from the final chapter in this book. But as we go through the conference committee process with the other body and negotiations with the White House, I believe we should be guided by the substitute reconciliation bill before us today.

The substitute bill balances the budget by 2002, makes spending cuts first, accumulates \$50 billion less in debt, and turns away from the notion of borrowing more money to pay for new tax breaks. It spreads the pain of balancing the budget more evenly and sets up a budget process that more strongly guarantees that we will in fact balance the budget and avoid the tragic mistakes of the past.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to end the partisan wrangling that goes on in this Chamber and build a genuine consensus for balancing the budget in the right way.

Thanks to the contributions of many, the question is no longer, "should we balance the budget?" but rather "how should we balance it?" The President is now suggesting that the 7-year time frame for balancing the budget makes sense. Let's join together as Democrats and Republicans and build on this fundamental change in attitude.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the eventual budget resolution for the American people can be based upon many of the elements of the substitute bill before us today. I urge my colleagues to support it

TRIBUTE TO ANDY TRUJILLO

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a young man who turned his life around. Andy Trujillo, who lives in Ogden, UT, led the life of a gang member. As he explains it, he came from a background of horror and violence.

Fortunately, Andy became a member of the Weber Basin Job Corps Center, where he found the guidance, support, and discipline he needed. At the Weber Basin Job Corps Andy was in an environment where he could excel, which is exactly what he has done.

Most recently, Andy was selected as the first place winning entry from over 1,000 essays submitted in a national essay writing contest on the topic "How Job Corps Changed My Life." I am submitting his essay to be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

This essay explains Andy's difficult background and what has happened since being in a structured, supportive environment. Andy's story illustrates the potential of each young person when placed in a situation with caring adults who believe in the great worth of each individual.

Andy now has his GED and plans to be the first in his family to attend college. Andy not only excelled academically but also socially. Andy was president of the Recreation Center and Andy is currently serving as student body vice president of Weber Basin Job Corps.

I commend Andy on the changes he has made in his life as demonstrated in his well written essay. I also applaud the other hard-working students who are committed to making something of themselves and the dedicated adults who help these students achieve their goals

1995 JACS NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST; HOW JOB CORPS CHANGED MY LIFE

(By Andy Trujillo)

I came from a background of horror and violence. I'm not the typical "All American" teenager. I was a slow learner and a troubled youth that had no one but a grandmother to turn to.

In the big city, I met a lot of people and was always interested in the glamorous life. I was attracted to the high-rolling, fast-paced easy money that came with my acquaintances. I was poorer than most of my friends and had very few possessions, so you could see how easy it was to be persuaded by the temptations of the streets.

I guess my life wasn't as bad as some others; I at least had a roof over my head and food in my stomach. My house wasn't big enough for the number of people that lived in it, so it was better for me to just stay away. All my life I heard, "Get out of my way! Get out and do something!" It was very hard on me. I didn't know what to do with myself half of the time. Getting into trouble seemed to be the only way I could get anybody's attention. Throughout my childhood, I was considered the black sheep and to me, that